

**REMARKS**

This amendment is in response to the Final Office Action of August 1, 2005. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 6 and 10 and allowed claims 2-4, 7-9, 11 and 12.

The Examiner first rejected claims 1 and 6 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,059,047 to *Schimke*.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to describe the first and second connection configurations being mutually engagable together without the use of tools by relative sliding movement of the guard with respect to the frame member. According to the invention, as shown in Figure 5, the guard 34 is slid onto the frame member 64.

*Schimke* on the other hand, discloses a seed boot 2 that mounts a sweep 11 using a fastener 12 (Figure 1). The boot 2 is fastened to the cultivator shaft 3 using fasteners 9 (Figure 3). There is no suggestion or teaching in *Schimke* to engage the parts using a sliding engagement.

Applicant has amended claim 6 to describe the first and second connection configurations being hand-engageable together by an interlocking connection engaged by relative sliding and rotary movement of the guard with respect to the frame member.

According to the invention, as shown in Figure 5, the guard 34 is slid onto the frame member 64. As shown in Figures 7 and 8, rotary movement of the guard 34 with respect to the frame member 64 locks the guard 34 to the frame member 64.

*Schimke* on the other hand, discloses a seed boot 2 that mounts a sweep 11 using a fastener 12 (Figure 1). The boot 2 is fastened to the cultivator shark 3 using fasteners 9 (Figure 3). There is no suggestion or teaching in *Schimke* to interlock the parts using a sliding and rotary movement of the parts.

The Examiner next rejected claims 5 and 10 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,059,047 to *Schimke*. However, based on the asserted allowability of independent claims 1 and 6, claims 5 and 10 should be allowable as well.

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 2-4, 7-9, 11 and 12 with appreciation.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and requests issuance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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